

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

MANE SHAH,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,

Defendant(s).

Case No. 2:14-cv-00624-APG-NJK

ORDER

(Docket No. 1)

Pending before the Court is Plaintiff's petition for judicial review, which includes the name of Plaintiff's alleged sexual assault victim. *See* Docket No. 1.<sup>1</sup> The Ninth Circuit has held that there is a presumption of public access to judicial files and records. *See, e.g., Kamakana v. City and County of Honolulu*, 447 F.3d 1172, 1180 (9th Cir. 2006). But courts have also recognized the need to protect the privacy of alleged sexual assault victims. *See, e.g., Doe v. Blue Cross & Blue Shield United of Wis.*, 112 F.3d 869, 872 (7th Cir. 1997) (recognizing the need to protect the privacy of, *inter alia*, rape victims). Indeed, "the public generally has a strong interest in protecting the identities of sexual assault victims so that other victims will not be deterred from reporting such crimes." *Doe v. Penzato*, 2011 WL 1833007, \*3 (N.D. Cal. May 13, 2011); *see also J.C. v. Society of Jesus, Ore. Province*, 2006 WL 3158814, \*7 (W.D. Wash. Oct. 27, 2006) (recognizing "the interest in protecting the privacy of victims of sexual assault outweighs the right of the public to

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<sup>1</sup> The alleged victim's identity is revealed in at least the affidavit attached to the petition.

1 access such information” and finding redaction of victims’ names sufficient to obscure their  
2 identities).

3 In light of the above, the Court hereby **ORDERS** the Clerk’s Office to seal Docket No. 1, at  
4 least on a temporary basis. The Court further **ORDERS** Plaintiff to file, no later than May 6, 2014,  
5 either (1) a version of the document with the alleged victim’s name redacted or (2) a memorandum  
6 of points and authorities explaining why such redaction is not proper.

7 IT IS SO ORDERED.

8 DATED: April 29, 2014

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12 NANCY J. KOPPE  
13 United States Magistrate Judge  
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